GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4608
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2002
AREA UNDER OILSEEDS CULTIVATION
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area under oilseeds cultivation during 1998-99;

(b) whether the area under oilseeds cultivation has been fluctuating since then;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the total area under oilseeds cultivation during the last three years upto March,2002;

(e) whether demand of oilseeds is increasing while the production is showing downward trend; and

(f) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to meet the domestic demand other than by imports?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): The area under oilseeds cultivation during 1998-99 year is 26228.8 thousand hectares.

(b)&(c): The area under oilseeds cultivation has been fluctuating from year to year depending on the weather conditions in that particular year.

(d): The total area under oilseeds cultivation during the last 3 years is as under:-

(Thousand ha.)

Year	Area
1998-99	26228.8
1999-2000	24282.4
2000-01	23249.8

The area coverage under oilseeds for the year 2001-02 is not yet available.

(e)&(f): There is a gap in the demand and indigenous supply of edible oil. In order to meet the domestic demand of oilseeds/edible oils, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP)s in operation in 28 States covering 408 selected districts. Under the scheme financial assistance for inputs, pest management, field demonstrations etc. are provided to the farmers in order to motivate them to take up the cultivation of oilseeds on a large scale. In addition development of Oil Palm by TechnologyMission on Oilseeds, development of Coconut by Coconut Development Board and development of treeborne oilseeds by NOVOD Board are also taken up.